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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Xavier BICH, et al.

Confirmation No.: 7418

Serial No.: 10/607,548

Art Unit: 3751

Filed: June 26, 2003

Examiner: not yet assigned

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INSTRUMENT

Attorney Docket No.: 11348-6-999

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

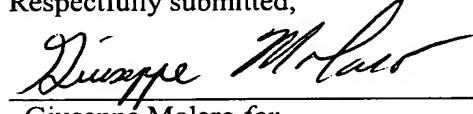
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
  - 1a.  A list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office.
  - 1b. A legible copy of :
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    - Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed on the PTO-1449;
    - For each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or portion of the application which caused it to be listed on the PTO-1449 including any claims directed to that portion;
    - all other information or portion which caused it to be listed on the PTO-1449.
  - 1c.  Copy of a search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or PCT International Search Report indicating relevancy of the cited references.
  - 1d.  Explanations of relevancy (ATTACHMENT 1(d), hereto) or English language abstracts of the non-English language publications.
2.  This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):
  - Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
  - Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;

- Before the mailing of the first Office action on the merits;
- Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.
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4.  No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than a search report of a foreign counterpart application or PCT International Search Report if submitted herewith). 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,



52,039

Date: January 13, 2004

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35,199

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  <i>O I P E</i> JAN 13 2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE SC105	ATTY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO
	11348-6-999	10/607,548
	APPLICANT Xavier BICH, et al.	
	FILING DATE June 26, 2003	GROUP 3751

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
A01	US-5,501,535	3/26/96	Hastings, et al.			
A02	US-5,928,711	7/27/99	Wallace, et al.			
A03	US-5,757,498	5/26/98	Klein, II, et al.			
A04	US-5,902,968	5/11/99	Sato, et al.			
A05	US-4,746,936	5/24/88	Takahashi			
A06						
A07						
A08						
A09						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	YES	NO
	B01	DE 44 19 735 A1	12-1995	Germany (w/English Abstract)				X	
	B02	GB 2 343 867 A	11-1991	United Kingdom				X	
	B03	EP 0 931 649 A2	7-1999	Europe				X	
	B04	EP 0 629 156 B1	5-1997	Europe				X	
	B05	WO 00/48654	8-2000	PCT				X	
	B06	WO 01/30589 A1	5-2001	PCT				X	

**OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

C01	
C02	
C03	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.